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Newsletter

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

GRADUATE SCHOOL

USDA

October 5, 1956

To the Faculty, Committee Members and
others associated with the Graduate School:

As we begin another school year -- the thirty-fifth for the Graduate School -- we take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to those of you who are new on the faculty and to tell those of you who have taught here before how happy we are to have you back. We hope you will have a good year.

The prospect is that you will have a larger class. Enrollment is up. As of September 24 it was 2771. Although registration is not complete, this figure indicates that we will have an increase of about 10% over last fall.

An interesting book, "The Changing Face of Higher Education" might be prepared if we had obtained copies of the talks that have been given at the monthly faculty luncheons and annual faculty dinners, the past three years.

The latest chapter would cover plans for meeting increased college enrollments in England. Helen Hill Miller, distinguished writer on public affairs, shared some of the ideas she found in interviewing college administrators when she was in England this past summer; at our faculty dinner, September 12.

At Oxford, where she took part in Commencement activities at her alma mater, St. Anne's, she found the emphasis on expanding work for post-graduate students. The highly expensive type of tutorial work given at Oxford and Cambridge will continue to be offered to carefully screened students who can profit most from this type of education. For undergraduates in England, the big expansion in college opportunities will be made in the municipal colleges where board and room do not constitute a problem.

Dr. Miller also spoke of some of the problems of higher education in this country. She pointed out that we might be making up our minds about priorities as why people want an education now. One of the values she noted is as real as it is spurious. A college education is a passport. It is an important part of the pile of paper-work which now rises between the young graduate looking for a job and the person who makes the judgment as to whether the applicant can be given a try at it. A much more genuine value of a college

education is the contribution it makes to one's capacity to compete. The field -- in most lines of work -- may be open, but capacity must be proved; a liberal arts education helps one to prove it.

As citizens concerned with the education of our children, Dr. Miller says we must be making up our minds about questions like these: what proportion of our students should be given technical training? How much participation can be required? In these days of bulging enrollments are we in position to offer education to those who want it only in neatly wrapped cellophane packages of units called credit hours? What are the opportunities for strengthening the "do-it-yourself" trend in getting a higher education?

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The next lecture in the continuing series on "The Changing Face of Education" will be given, Tuesday, October 2, at a faculty luncheon in Room 6962 South Building. You are cordially invited to hear Theodore Distler, Executive Director of the Association of American Colleges, speak on "Reefs, Shoals and Beacons in Higher Education". Dr. Distler is a former instructor in public speaking and former president of Franklin and Marshall College. He is a thoughtful and stimulating speaker.

This semester, 36 students representing 15 agencies, enrolled in the Graduate School on scholarships granted by the General Administration Board. They were selected from 88 applicants by an able committee composed of Earl E. Kriegesman, Jack Kern, Catherine Coleman, and Registrar Louise Malone. Mr. Kriegesman and Mr. Kern are personnel officers in Agriculture, Miss Coleman is a personnel officer with the Railroad Retirement Board.

The recipients range in age from 21 to 46. Sixteen are over 30. All are high school graduates. Six hold bachelors degrees. Two have done graduate work. They are in jobs ranging from GS-3 through GS-12 with the largest number (10) in GS-7.

Listed by the agencies where they work, the scholarship holders are: Agriculture: Herbert Keech, Kathleen McGuire, Harry Moore, Allen Raymond, Margery Richards, and Norman Rosencrans; Air force: John Benedict and Beth Withers; Army: Ruth Barns, Donald Curtis, Harold Wilson, Leo Zierden; Atomic Energy Commission: Jasper Sellers; and Civil Service Commission: Frederick Pfluger.

Commerce: Charles Cook, Mrs. Evelyn Farmer, William Goad, and Daniel Reece; D.C. Government, David Legge; Farm Credit Administration, Morris Alexander; Federal Power Commission, Neal Jennings; Labor, Ruth Hutton; National Institutes of Health, Sylvia Bunting, David McCarthy, and William Stalters; Navy, Ralph Burdick, Paul Childress, Louis Lorenson, and Jean Mock; Post Office, Thomas J. Miller, Treasury, Luis Baez and Donald Hepner;

Veterans Administration, Richard Tobin; Interior, Russell A. Soulen, Earl M. Black, and Marcel Rivera.

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We may add another link to our network of cooperative programs with colleges in large cities.

Louis S. Lyon, regional director of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, with headquarters in Cincinnati, informs us that federal agencies are joining with the city government and the University of Cincinnati to organize a special training program for government employees.

Mr. Lyon is interested particularly in two courses, "Human Relations in Administration," and "Organization and Methods Techniques." He had heard of the cooperative projects the Graduate School has with Temple, New York, and Boston Universities and he thought a similar arrangement might be made in Cincinnati. Assistant Director O. B. Conaway, Jr. has written him of our interest in cooperating in the program.

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Have you looked into opportunities for study and teaching in foreign countries. They are most impressive. Fulbright awards will be made this fall for work in Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Burma, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the Philippines. Closing date for application is November 1. You may secure forms and additional information from the Institute of International Education, 1 East 67th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

The Ford Foundation has also announced the continuation of its fellowship program in foreign areas and international affairs for the academic year, 1957-58. Fellowships will be granted for study in Asia, the Near East, the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and Africa. Closing date for applications is December 15, 1956. Further information and forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Ford Foundation, International Relations Training Fellowships, 477 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

We frequently note with pride, in this letter, the recognition of members of the Graduate School faculty by professional societies. Perhaps we should start keeping a record of the offices you hold. It would be impressive. This is by way of noting that professional societies provide much stimulation and growth in one's field of interest. You can aid your students by giving them information on professional societies in which they may participate and the beginning of the semester is a good time to do it.

It was with much regret that we canceled the seminar on agricultural policies and programs that we had scheduled to be given by O. C. Stine. This was necessary when Dr. Stine accepted an invitation to teach at Hampden - Sydney.

We hope to offer the seminar in the spring. And we are pleased to know the students of Hampden-Sydney will have an opportunity to study national economic policy with a teacher of Dr. Stine's wide knowledge.

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Our mail is filled with invoices from State and Federal agencies these days as orders pour in for DEMOCRACY IN FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION and other books published by the Graduate School -- as the result of our solicitation of the Public Administration Society's mailing list. The results of the mailing have been good not only for our new book but for others in Jump-McKillip lecture series -- they include an order from the government of the province of Saskatchewan (The Budget Bureau) National Archives and Records Service of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park,

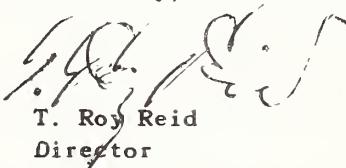
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Lawrence A. Appley, president of the American Management Association estimates that about 250 thousand American business executives are currently going to some form of specialized training program to develop their skills and improve their qualifications for managerial jobs. Of these, 150 thousand are training in internal company programs and 100 thousand are taking formal courses, attending seminars, conferences, and clinics. WALL STREET JOURNAL, September 11, 1956.

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Martin H. Miller's fine one-man show in the Photography Section at the Smithsonian will continue through October. We hope you will have an opportunity to see it. Mr. Miller teaches photographic composition.

Sincerely,



T. Roy Reid
Director